

DIARY NOTES

DD/S *WJM*

17 December 1961

At 0324 hours this morning there was a major power failure and the entire Langley Building was blacked out. The batteries which operated the telephone system lasted until about 0815 hours at which time we were also out of telephone communications through the Agency switchboard. Power came back on at 0919 hours and the batteries were recharged sufficiently to operate the telephone system beginning at 1045 hours. Jim Garrison, [REDACTED] and I, as well as others, worked on the problem most of the day and by the close of business had arranged with the contractor to start the emergency generator, if this situation should occur again. However, there are many other lessons to be learned from this incident and I have asked [REDACTED] to make an immediate study of the entire situation and to come up with recommendations for the future.

LKW:mam

~~SECRET~~

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Mr. McCone toured the seventh floor with [REDACTED]. H. S. reported that Mr. McCone had several misunderstandings about the final arrangements on the seventh floor which he apparently got from talking with the Security boys. He also directed that the clothes racks outside the USIB Conference Room be removed from the corridor immediately.

LKW:mam